

Comiskey

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The Chicago White Sox is one of the original baseball teams in the American League. Charles A. Comiskey was the first owner and one of the best. Along with owning the great team, Comiskey ordered that an innovative steel and concrete park was to be built. This was the first park ever to be made only out of concrete and steel, because the others were made out of wood. Charles A. Comiskey was an important Illinois businessman.

The park Charles Comiskey ordered was named Comiskey Park. Along with the new construction techniques the park had a large seating capacity of 32,000. It opened in 1910. In 1926 Charles Comiskey ordered a second deck because attendance increased and this enabled the seating capacity to reach 52,000.

In 1900, the first year the White Stockings, as they were originally named, played, they won the Pennant also known as the American League Championship. Comiskey was able to lead the White Sox to win one World Series. He knew many strategies about the infield positions and taught them to his team. Comiskey Park held the first All-Star game of the major league baseball teams. It pitted the American League against the National League. The game ended with the American League winning 4 to 2.

Also, the Chicago Cardinals, a National Football League team, played in Comiskey Park from 1922 to 1959. This was a very good business move because fans of the Cardinals went to Comiskey Park and this generated money for Charles A. Comiskey. The Cardinals shared the stadium with the Chicago White Sox. Thus, Comiskey and Comiskey Park hosted the first national football team Chicago and Illinois ever had.

Charles A. Comiskey not only started a new baseball team, but he helped start the American League along with other owners and teams.

When the team was created in 1900, it added a new major league team to Chicago. The Chicago Orphans (Cubs) were already playing and had their home in Chicago before the Sox entered. The Windy City now had two teams making more opportunity for Charles's business.

The White Sox was not a perfect team. One thing that they had to overcome was the Black Sox scandal in 1919. Some players were paid to lose the series. They accused Charles A. Comiskey, saying he had not paid the players enough so they did not win the World Series. They did not play again in the World Series until 1959 and again in 2005.

Charles A. Comiskey was a great owner but he was not popular among the players. He taught the positions well to players and that made them win a lot. But because players were underpaid some left the team.

The team was not a happy team when Comiskey was in charge but the fans were. The fans only had to pay 25 cents for bleacher seats, which is not very expensive for a modern park. Comiskey Park was one of the greatest parks for fans. Comiskey Park and Charles A. Comiskey were good for Chicago and Illinois. [From I. Cohen, *Comiskey Park*; Staff (2001-2006) White Sox Official Page, http://chicago.whitesox.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/index.jsp?c_id=cws (Nov. 30, 2005).]